Increase in non-agricultural debts

†2809. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major increase has been estimated in the year 2004-2005 in comparison to the last five years in respect of non-agricultural debts in the Public Sector Banks;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the estimate of the growth rate; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the said growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. The growth of 20% in non-agricultural loans between March to December, 2004 is roughly in tune with the growth observed in the total credit portfolio.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Loans advanced to the agricultural sector

†2810. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the clear instructions to the banks to provide 18 per hcent of loans to agricultural sector only 10.84 per cent to 13.5 per cent loan has been provided in the country during the recent years;

(b) if not, the amount of loan provided to agricultural sector separately during 2002-03, 2003-04 and the first nine months in the 2004-05; and

(c) the amount of loan provided by the Private Sector Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The outstanding advances as on last reporting Friday of March, 2004 to agriculture sector by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Private Sector Banks as percentage to Net Bank Credit (NBC) has ranged from 9.58% to 18.96% and 5.04% to 26.21%

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.